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TAGS: SOPN
SUBJECT: ARA NEWS ITEMS OF FEBRUARY 25, 1983
- -- -
1. SUMMARY OF NEWSPAPERS:
-- WASHINGTON POST --
BOLIVIA: JACKSON DIEHL FRONT PAGE FROM LA PAZ (FOR
STRUGGLING BOLIVIA, BARBIE WAS A CONVENIENT GIFT TO
FRANCE, CONTINUED FRONT PAGE SECOND SECTION UNDER HEAD
EX-SS CHIEF BARBIE CHOSE WRONG TIME TO PAY A DEBT TO

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BOLIVIA) WRITES THAT EXPULSION OF **KLAUS BARBIE** TO FRANCE IS STIRRING UP CONTROVERSY IN BOLIVIA. BARBIE WAS ARRESTED IN JANUARY IN BOLIVIA WHEN HE WENT TO PAY A SIX-YEAR-OLD $10,000 DEBT TO THE GOB, WHEN BOLIVIAN OFFICIALS DISPUTED THE MANNER IN WHICH IT SHOULD BE PAID. "WITH THAT PETTY ARGUMENT AND AD HOC DETENTION, EVENTS WERE TOUCHED OFF THAT LED TO BARBIE'S CELEBRATED IMPRISONMENT IN FRANCE ON CHARGES OF CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY -- AND AN ONGOING CONTROVERSY IN BOLIVIA ABOUT THE METHODS AND MOTIVES OF A WEAK GOVERNMENT'S SUDDEN ACTION," DIEHL SAYS. "BARBIE'S SUMMARY EXPULSION BY THE STRUGGLING, LEFT-OF-CENTER GOVERNMENT OF HERNAN SILES SUAZO HAS WON BOLIVA WIDE PRAISE FROM EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS AT A TIME WHEN THE COUNTRY DESPERATELY NEEDS AID. GRATIFIED FRENCH OFFICIALS SAYS THAT IN ADDITION TO AN AID PACKAGE PLANNED BEFORE THE EXPULSION, THEY INTEND TO 'LEAD A CAMPAIGN FOR BOLIVIA IN EUROPE,' IN THE WORDS OF ONE." IN BOLIVIA, HOWEVER, NOTES DIEHL, THE EXPULSION IS NOT SUCH A SIMPLE ISSUE. "EVEN AS THE GOVERNMENT HAS CONTINUED TO BROADCAST REPORTS ON STATE TELEVISION ABOUT BARBIE'S CRIMES AND EUROPEAN GRATITUDE, LEADING DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS AND NEWSPAPERS HAVE QUESTIONED THE GOVERNMENT'S HASTY ABANDONMENT OF AN EXTRADITION CASE IN THE SUPREME COURT. THE UNCERTAIN LEGALITY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S LATER ACTIONS...HAVE LED MANY BOLIVIANS TO CONCLUDE THAT THE GOVERNMENT ACTED PRECIPATELY IN THE HOPE OF QUICK POLITICAL GAINS." NEWSPAPER PRESENCIA EDITORIALIZED, "BOLIVIA PRESENTS ITSELF IN THE NOT VERY COMPLIMENTARY ROLE OF SOMEBODY WHO TURNED SOMEBODY IN FOR A REWARD."

GOB OFFICIALS SAY THEY ALWAYS INTENDED TO EXPEL BARBIE, AND JUST HAD THE RIGHT MOMENT BECAUSE HE WAS IN THEIR HANDS. POLITICAL LEADERS ADD, HOWEVER, THAT BARBIE'S ARREST COINCIDED WITH THE GOB'S WORST CRISIS IN ITS FOUR MONTHS. THOSE DIFFICULTUES AND FRANCE'S STRONG INFLUENCE, THEY SAY, ACCORDING TO DIEHL, "CAUSED THE REVERSAL IN THE POLICY OF WAITING FOR A COURT DECISION (IN A PENDING EXTRADITION REQUEST FROM WEST GERMANY) AND AN EQUALLY WORLDLY WISE DECISION TO SEND HIM TO FRANCE RATHER THAN WEST GERMANY." THE SILES GOVERNMENT HAD MANY REASONS TO EXPEL BARBIE, DIEHL NOTES, SINCE HE HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF HAVING CONNECTIONS TO MILITARY GOVERNMENTS AND PARAMILITARY GROUPS AND WELL AS COCAINE SMUGGLING. REPORTS ALSO SAY HE HAD ADVISED MILITARY LEADERS ON TORTURE AND BROKERED ARMS DEALS, ALTHOUGH THERE NO PROOF HAS SURFACED OF THESE CHARGES. GOB CRISIS IN JANUARY ORITY PARTY,

PARTLY BECAUSE IT CLAIMED SILES WAS NOT ACTING AGAINST RIGHT-WING PARAMILITARY GROUPS AND COCAINE TRAFFICKERS. THE CRISIS FORCED THE CANCELLATION OF A TRIP TO FRANCE BY SILES, WHERE AN AID PACKAGE WAS SCHEDULED TO BE ANNOUNCED. THREE DAYS AFTER SILES' SCHEDULED DEPARTURE, BARBIE SHOWED UP TO PAY HIS DEBT, APPARENTLY EAGER TO SETTLE ANY DISPUTES THAT COULD HAVE GIVEN THE GOB AN EXCUSE TO ARREST HIM. ELEVEN DAYS LATER HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO EUROPE. VICE PRESIDENT JAIME PAZ SAYS THE ARREST WAS A POLITICAL DECISION, MADE FOR EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL

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REASONS. PROCESS OF ARRANGING A DEPARTURE DRAGGED AT FIRST "BECAUSE OF SECOND THOUGHTS BY BOLIVIAN OFFICIALS OVER THE QUESTIONABLE LEGAL MEASURES." PRESSURE FROM FRANCE HELPED DECIDE THE QUICK EXPULSION, PARTLY BECAUSE OF THE PENDING AID PACKAGE AND PARTLY BECAUSE FRANCE COULD HELP BY ALLOWING THE PLANE TO REFUEL IN ITS TERRITORY OF FRENCH GUYANA, AVOIDING STOPOVERS IN THIRD COUNTRIES. NOW, SAYS DIEHL, "FRENCH OFFICIALS SAY THE AID PACKAGE WILL BE ANNOUNCED WITH FANFARE DURING A RESCHEDULED TRIP (BY SILES) IN THE COMING WEEKS. MEANWHILE, FRANCE WILL BACK BOLIVIA'S EFFORTS FOR FINANCIAL AID IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND URGE OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT." WHILE GOB OFFICIALS SAY THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AID IS WELCOME, THE INTERNAL POLITICAL EFFECT OF THE EXPULSION MAY NOT BE AS BENEFICIAL, SAYS DIEHL, SINCE BOLIVIANS HAVE MANY MORE PROBLEMS THAN **KLAUS BARBIE** TO WORRY ABOUT.
EL SALVADOR: NEWS BRIEF "FOR THE RECORD" IN "AROUND THE WORLD" COLUMN PAGE 13 SAYS THAT ACCORDING TO THE GOES, GUERRILLAS CONTROL THE STRATEGIC TOWN OF TEJUTLA, 35 MILES NORTH OF SAN SALVADOR. THE TOWN IS AN IMPORTANT GATEWAY TO GUERRILLA STRONGHOLDS IN CHALATENANGO PROVINCE, SAYS ITEM.
MEXICO: NEWS BRIEF IN "FEDERAL TRIANGLE" COLUMN PAGE 17 (DAIRY FOODS TO BE SENT TO MEXICO) NOTES AGRICULTURE DEPT. ANNOUNCEMENT YESTERDAY THAT THE US WILL DONATE MORE THAN 30,000 METRIC TONS OF SURPLUS DAIRY PRODUCTS TO MEXICO. DONATIONS WILL INCLUDE 20,000 TONS OF NONFAT DRY MILK, 6460 TONS OF BUTTER OIL, 2000 TONS OF PROCESSED AMERICAN CHEESE AND 2000 TONS OF CHEDDAR CHEESE. AGSECY. BLOCK SAYS PRODUCTS, WHICH WILL COST USG $80 MILLION, WILL BE USED PRIMARLY IN THE SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAMS AND TO HELP FEED PREGNANT WOMEN, INFANTS, THE ELDERLY, HANDICAPPED AND MENTALLY ILL. DONATIONS ARE THROUGH COMMODITY CREDIT CORP.
-- WASHINGTON TIMES --
SURINAME: NEWS BRIEF FROM GENEVA PAGE 6 IN "WORLD" COLUMN (PANEL TO PROBE SURINAME KILLINGS) NOTES ANNOUNCEMENT BY INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS YESTERDAY THAT IT WILL INVESTIGATE REPORTS THUE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME KILLED OPPOSITION LEADERS IN AT LEAST TWO COUP ATTEMPTS CRUSHED IN DECEMBER. ITEM POINTS OUT THAT THE NETHERLANDS EARLIER THIS MONTH SAID IT HAD INDEPENDENT INFORMATION SHOWING THE ARRESTED OPPOSITION LEADERS HAD BEEN "SHOT DEAD IN COLD BLOOD."
EL SALVADOR: AP FROM SAN SALVADOR PAGE 7 (MAGANA VOWS LEGAL THAW, BARS REBEL TALKS) WRITES THAT PRESIDENT MAGANA SAYS HE WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH LEFTIST GUERRILLAS, BUT PROMISES TO APPOINT A "PEACE COMMISSION," WHICH HE SAID WILL RELAX REPRESSIVE LAWS. REBELS, STEPPING UP THEIR MILITARY CAMPAIGN, GAINED CONTROL OF TOWN OF TEJUTLA FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS YEAR, SAYS AP. MAGANA'S COMMENTS CAME IN TELEVISED SPEECH, IN WHICH HE SAID HE WILL APPOINT THE PEACE COMMISSION SOON TO CARRY OUT REFORMS TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR LEFTISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS, BUT DID NOT ELABORATE.
EL SALVADOR: AP HAS SECOND STORY FROM SAN SALVADOR PAGE

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7 (GUERRILLAS IN SALVADOR ACCELERATE PACE OF WAR) WHICH SAYS THE GUERRILLAS ARE STRIKING MORE OFTEN AND IN BIGGER NUMBERS SINCE THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. WESTERN MILITARY OBVERSER SAYS, "THE GUERRILLAS ARE ORCHESTRATING THEIR OFFENSIVES MORE OFTEN THAN BEFORE." BUT, SAYS AP, "IT IS UNCERTAIN WHICH SIDE IS AHEAD IN THE 40-MONTH-LONG CIVIL WAR THAT HAS CLAIMED AN ESTIMATED 42,000 LIVES." AP'S SOURCES SAY THE US IS PUTTING MORE PRESSURE ON THE GOES MILITARY TO CHANGE ITS TACTIS OR RISK LOSING THE WAR. AMERICANS ARE ADVOCATING MORE SMALL-UNIT PATROLS, ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT, TO BEAT THE GUERRILLAS AT THEIR OWN GAME. GUERRILLAS ARE NO LONGER RAG-TAG BUNCH OF STUDENTS AND FARM BOYS THAT TOOK TO THE HILLS THREE YEARS AGO, SAYS AP. NOW THEY ARE WELL-ARMED WITH WEAPONS CAPTURED FROM THE GOVERNMENT, AND WITH THOSE THE US SAYS CONTINUE TO FLOW FROM NICARAGUA.

EL SALVADOR/CUBA/GUYANA: VIRGINIA PREWETT OP-ED COLUMN PAG-E 2C (EL SALVADOR AND THE CULT-LEADERS OF THE LIBERAL LEFT) SAYS THE SOVIETS AND FIDEL CASTRO GET AWAY WITH THEIR BUILDUP OF POWER IN THE CARIBBEAN BASIN BECAUSE THE US LEFT ABETS THEM. NOW, SHE SAYS, "CULT-LEADERS OF THE US LIBERAL LEFT ARE GOING FOR A NEW VICTORY -- IN EL SALVADOR." THE SCHEME IS TO GIVE THE GOES A COUP DE THROUGH US-SPONSORED "NEGOTIATIONS," TO END IN POWER-SHARING WITH THE CASTRO-LINKED GUERRILLAS, SHE SAYS. THAT SCHEME HAS BEEN SCUTTLED FOR THE MOMENT BY AMB. KIRKPATRICK'S TRIP THROUGH THE CRISIS AREA. "BUT LEFTIST TREND-SETTERS NOW ANXIOUS TO DUMP EL SALVADOR INTO THE SAME BASKET WITH NICARAGUA HAVE DROPPED THE MASK AS THEY PUSH FOR THE GIVEAWAY." PREWETT NOTES NEWS REPORTS OF GUERRILLA GAINS AND IDEA THAT THE GUERRILLAS DO NOT GET WEAPONS FROM NICARAGUA -- SHE CALLS THIS "AGITPROP." ASST. SECY. ENDERS' INSISTENCE THAT THE US IS NOT "GOING FOR" MILITARY VICTORY IN EL SALVADOR, SHE SAYS HAS "KEPT ONE FOOT OF REAGAN POLICY IN CARTER POLICY," AND HAS "HUNG DEFENDING SALVADORAN TROOPS TO TWIST SLOWLY IN THE WIND FOR GUERRILLAS TO SHOOT AT." PREWETT ONCE AGAIN CONDEMNS "NO-WIN" POLICIES OF GOES DEFMIN GARCIA. SHE ALSO QUESTIONS THE NEED FOR ECONOMIC REFORMS IN EL SALVADOR, AND BLAMES US LEFT FOR "SALVADOR'S INTERNAL BLEEDING." AT THE SAME TIME, SHE SAYS, THE SOVIETS AND THE CUBANS CONTINUE TO ADVANCE THEIR MILITARY BUILDUP IN THE WHOLE AREA. SHE NOTES PARTICULARLY A NUMBER OF MILITARY AIRSTRIPS BUILT BY THE CUBANS IN GUYANA, AND CLAIMS THAT THERE WAS A SECRET NIGHT DELIVERY, NOT FOR THE FIRST TIME, OF SIX THOUSANDS TONS OF NORTH KOREAN ARMS AT LINDEN, IN GUYANA. MEANWHILE, SHE SAYS, "THE GUYANESE PRETEND TO HAVE DISTANCED THEMSELVES FROM CASTRO."

-- NEW YORK TIMES --

FOREIGN AID: BERNARD GWERTZMAN, REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON ON SECRETARY OF STATE GEORGE SHULTZ'S OPENING A PUBLIC CAMPAIGN TO WIN SUPPORT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION'S MULTIBILLION-DOLLAR FOREIGN AID PROGRAM ("A CITIZEN PAYS $43 FOR AID, SHULTZ SAYS, AND $35 FOR HAIRDOS" FRONT PAGE), QUOTES THE SECRETARY IN ATLANTA SAYING THAT IT COST EACH AMERICAN CITIZEN $12.35 "FOR BUILDING PEACE IN

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THE MIDDLE EAST," $3.84 FOR CARIBBEAN AID, 92 CENTS "FOR CURBING POPULATION GROWTH" IN OTHER COUNTRIES, $3.15 FOR FOOD AID AND 77 CENTS FOR AID TO TURKEY. "THE TOTAL COST IN TAX DOLLARS FOR ALL OUR SECURITY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES," MR. SHULTZ SAID, "IS $43.91 PER PERSON."" BY CONTRAST, HE SAID, "WE AMERICANS SPEND $104 PER PERSON A YEAR FOR TV AND RADIO SETS, $35 PER PERSON PER YEAR FOR BARBERSHOPS AND BEAUTY PARLORS...AND $21 PER PERSON PER YEAR FOR FLOWERS AND POTTED PLANTS." "...I AM TRY9NG TO ESTABLISH SOME RELATIVE VALUES," HE SAID. "EVERY AMERICAN MUST UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S NECESSARY TO SPEND A FRACTION OF OUR COLLECTIVE RESOURCES TO SECURE OUR MOST PRECIOUS GOALS OF FREEDOM, ECONOMIC WELL-BEING AND PEACE."

KLAUS BARBIE: E.J. DIONNE REPORTS FROM PARIS ("BARBIE TO BE TRIED ON EIGHT CHARGES: THE CASE WILL INVOLVE CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY -- KILLING OF LOULIN IS NOT CITED" P. 5).

EL SALVADOR: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR INCLUDES "SHULTZ'S WRONG PATH TO SALVADORAN PEACE" STATING THAT "THE NOTION THAT IT IS ALL RIGHT FOR A GOVERNMENT (IF WE DEEM THE GOVERNMENT TO BE FRIENDLY TO US) TO MAINTAIN POWER THROUGH TERROR AND VIOLENCE BUT UNACCEPTABLE FOR OTHERS TO RESIST THE RESULTING TYRANNY BY THE SAME MEANS....THE SECRETARY'S POSITION IS ALSO IRRATIONAL, SINCE IT REJECTS THE ONLY REALISTIC HOPE TO END THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE....BUT EL SALVADOR PRESENTS TOO MUCH OF A CHICKEN-AND-EGG PUZZLE TO MAKE GLIB CONCLUSIONS AND THE PARSING OUT OF BLAME EITHER SENSIBLE OR POSSIBLE."

NONALIGNED: S. NIHAL SINGH, FORMER EDITOR OF THE STATESMAN OF CALCUTTA AND THE INDIAN EXPRESS AND NOW SENIOR ASSOCIATE AT THE CARNEIGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE, REPORTS IN A SPECIAL TO THE MONITOR ("EAST IS EAST, WEST IS WEST, AND NONALIGNED IS NONALIGNED AGAIN" P. 6) THAT THE SUMMIT MEETING OF NONALIGNED NATIONS BEGINNING IN NEW DEHLI ON MARCH 7 WILL REPRESENT A DRAMATIC CHANGE. "CUBA WILL TURN OVER THE MOVEMENT'S PRESIDENCY TO INDIA, GIVING THE GROUP AN OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN GREATER CREDIBILITY IN THE WORLD. INDIA, A KEY FOUNDER, HOPES TO BRING THE MOVEMENT BACK ON THE RAILS. THAT ALSO APPEARS TO BE THE WISH OF THE MAJORITY. BUT THE NATIONS WHO ACT AS STALKING HORSES FOR EITHER EAST OR WEST ARE ACTIVE IN ESPOUSING THEIR CAUSES IN A GROUP WHOSE RATIONALE WAS TO STEER CLEAR OF THE SUPERPOWERS." NOTING THAT THE STARTING POINT FOR NONALIGNMENT WAS A SHARED ANTI-COLONIALISM AND, IN THE HEYDAY OF THE COLD WAR, PEACE AND DISARMAMENT. "AN INITIAL ANTI-WESTERN SLANT WAS THUS INEVITABLE AND WAS SKILLFULLY EXPLOITED BY THE SOVIET UNION." SPECIFICALLY ON CUBA, SINGH WRITES THAT AT THE 1979 MEETING IN HAVANA, "CUBA TRIED TO HIJACK THE MOVEMENT BY HAVING IT PROCLAIMED THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WERE THE 'NATURAL ALLIES' OF THE NONALIGNED. THAT MOVE WAS DECISIVELY DEFEATED, THANKS TO TITO, AMONG OTHERS, AND THE MAJORITY COULD ONLY WAIT UNTIL THE END OF CUBA'S THREE-YEAR TERM AS CHAIRMAN." ON THE CARIBBEAN, THE AUTHOR FEELS "THE

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CONSENSUS WILL PRETTY NEARLY BE AGAINST AMERICAN INTERVENTION."
-- BALTIMORE SUN --
ARGENTINA: RETUERS-BUENOS AIRES REPORTS ("ARGENTINE AMNESTY HINTED FOR SOLDIERS, REBELS" P. 2) THAT ARGENTINA'S MILITARY GOVERNMENT PLANS TO EXPLAIN OFFICIALLY HOW IT CRACKED DOWN ON LEFTIST GUERRILLAS IN THE LATE 1970S AND WILL PARDON BOTH SOLDIERS WHO COMMITTED HUMAN-RIGHTS ABUSES AND THE GUERRILLAS, MILITARY SOURCES REPORTED YESTERDAY. THE MEASURES WOULD BE ANNOUNCED SIMULTANEOUSLY SOME TIME NEXT MONTH, THEY ADDED. "THE JUNTA'S INITIATIVE IS AIMED AT SOLVING ONE OF THE MOST EXPLOSIVE PROBLEMS IN ARGENTINA'S PLANNED RETURN TO DEMOCRACY BY MARCH, 1984. AT ISSUE IS THE FATE OF UP TO 30,000 PEOPLE WHO DISAPPEARED DURING THE ANTI-GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN." HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP ALREADY HAVE OPPOSED PARDONS, SAYING THE ARMED FORCES LACK THE MORAL AUTHORITY TO ABSOLVE THEMSELVES OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTS THEY COMMITTED. THE MILITARY SOURCES SAID THE PROPOSED ARMED FORCES DOCUMENT WOULD BE MORE OF AN EXPLANATION OF HOW AND WHY THE ANTI-GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT. "IT WOULD NOT BE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PEOPLE OFFICIALLY LISTED AS MISSING BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS."
EL SALVADOR: REUTERS-WASHINGTON ("MORE US TROOPS IN SALVADOR SOUGHT" P. 4) HAS SMALL NOTE THAT DEFENSE SECRETARY CASPAR W. WEINBERGER YESTERDAY SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND BY 10 OR SO THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN MILITARY TRAINERS IN EL SALVADOR. "IT WOULD BE USEFUL AND EFFECTIVE TO HAVE A FEW MORE," HE SAID AT A NEWS CONFERENCE. REUTERS NOTES THAT THE NUMBER OF US MILITARY PERSONNEL WORKING WITH SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT TROOPS HAS NOT EXCEEDED 55 AND NOW IS BELOW 50. "EVEN A SMALL INCREASE IN THE US CONTINGENT WOULD BE CERTAIN TO SPARK PROTESTS IN CONGRESS, WHERE LIBERAL MEMBERS ARE QUESTIONING REAGAN ADMINISTRATION POLICIES IN THE CENTRAL AMERICAN REPUBLIC."
-- WALL STREET JOURNAL --
MEXICO: FRONT PAGE "WHAT'S NEWS" INCLUDES SEVERAL SPOT NOTES INDICATING THAT MEXICO RECEIVED COMMITMENTS FOR $5 BILLION IN NEW BANK LOANS. AFTER TWO MONTHS OF TALKS WITH "SOMETIMES-RELUCTANT LENDERS", MEXICAN OFFICIALS MAY BE ABLE TO SIGN THE LOAN NEXT WEEK, WITH $1.7 BILLION AVAILABLE BY MID-MARCH. THE US, IN A SEPARATE NOTE, WILL ALSO REPORTEDLY GIVE SURPLUS DAIRY PRODUCTS TO MEXICO THAT IT BOUGHT FROM FARMERS FOR $80 MILLION UNDER A PRICE-SUPPO-RT PROGRAM ACCORDING TO AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT SOURCES.
S THAT SALVADORAN
LEFTISTS CLAIMED THEY AGAIN CONTROL NORTHERN MORAZAN PROVINCE AFTER AN ARMY BATTALION WITHDREW FROM PERQUIN. THE GOVERNMENT WOULDN'T COMMENT ON THE CLAIM. PERQUIN WAS RETAKEN BY GOVERNMENT TROOPS EARLIER THIS MONTH.
ARGENTINA: ARGENTINE PLANES ARE TESTING THE 150-MILE EXCLUSION ZONE ACCORDING TO BRITISH SOURCES.
VENEZUELA: INTERNATIONAL SECTION ("EUROPEAN CREDITOR

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SUES VENEZUELA BANK FOR OVERDUE LOAN; MORE SUITS MAY FOLLOW" P. 30) NOTES THAT EUROPEAN BANKING CO., A BANK CONSORTIUM, SAID IT IS SUING BANCO INDUSTRIAL DE VENEZUELA TO RECOVER A $30 MILLION LOAN. BANKERS SAID THE LAWSUIT COULD TRIGGER MORE LEGAL ACTIONS BY FOREIGN BANKS OWED MONEY BY VENEZUELAN INSTITUTIONS. THE FAILURE TO REPAY THE DEBT ALSO RAISED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LEVEL OF THE COUNTRY'S INTERNATIONAL RESERVES. BANCO INDUSTRIAL IS ONE OF VENEZUELA'S LARGEST STATE-OWNED BANKS. THE SUIT, FILED IN CARACAS, CALLS FOR IT TO REPAY THE $30 MILLION, SHORT-TERM LOAN THAT IS OVERDUE PLUS $2 MILLION IN INTEREST. IN CARACAS, AN OFFICIAL OF BANCO INDUSTRIAL SAID THE BANK WAS "SURPRISED" THAT IT WAS BEING SUED. VENEZUELA IS IN THE MIDST OF TRYING TO REFINANCE ABOUT $9 BILLION IN FOREIGN DEBT AND SOME BANKERS HAVE SAID SUITS SUCH AS BANO INDUSTRIAL'S MAY SERIOUSLY HINDER THAT EFFORT.

BOLIVIA: EVERETT G. MARTIN, REPORTING FROM LA PAZ ("BOLIVIA CAN'T MAKE PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON FOREIGN DEBT TILL 1986, OFFICIAL SAYS" P. 32), WRITES THAT BOLIVIA'S NEW CIVILIAN LEADERS SAY THERE ISN'T ANY ROOM FOR ARGUMENT: PAYING THE FOREIGN DEBT MUST TAKE A BACK SEAT TO INTERNAL POLITICAL DEMANDS. IN COMING WEEKS, PRESIDENT HERNAN SILES ZUAZO'S ECONOMIC TEAM MUST FACE THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND A COMMITTEE OF 128 FOREIGN BANKS THAT HAVEN'T BEEN PAID SINCE OCTOBER. THEY WANT MR. SILES TO IMPOSE TOUGH AUSTERITY MEASURES SO THE COUNTRY CAN MEET PAYMENTS ON ITS $2.5 BILLION FOREIGN DEBT.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF T.V. NEWSCASTS AND PROGRAMS FEBRUARY 24:

-- CBS EVENING NEWS --

(DAN RATHER) MEXICAN ECONOMY - BANKING OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK SAID LATE TODAY PLANS FOR A $5 BILLION LOAN TO AILING MEXICO HAVE BEEN FINALIZED. THEY CALLED THE AGREEMENT A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH THAT COULD SET THE PATTERN FOR LOANS TO OTHER TROUBLED ECONOMIES SUCH AS BRAZIL.

(DAN RATHER) EL SALVADOR - AT A PENTAGON NEWS CONFERENCE TODAY SECRETARY WEINBERGER SAID IT WOULD BE "USEFUL AND EFFECTIVE TO SEND 10 OR MORE U.S. MILITARY ADVISORS TO EL SALVADOR." THIS WOULD REPRESENT AN INCREASE OF AT LEAST 20 PERCENT. SALVADORAN REBELS SAID TODAY THEY HAD REGAINED CONTROL OF NORTHERN MORAZAN PROVINCE, BUT THIS WAS NOT CONFIRMED.

(ED RABLE) CBS NEWS PURCHASED FILMS OF SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS IN TRAINING FROM SALVADORAN FILMMAKERS WHO ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE REBELS. THE FILM IS DESIGNED TO SHOW THEM AT THEIR BEST, AND THAT SEEMS PRETTY GOOD. WE SEE WHAT TOOK PLACE LAST JULY AND AUGUST IN MORAZAN PROVINCE. DURING THIS CAMPAIGN THE REBELS SAID THEY WERE ABLE TO CAPTURE TRUCKLOADS OF ARMS, AMMUNITION AND SUPPLIES -- A LOT OF IT FROM THE U.S. LEFT BEHIND BY GOVERNMENT DEFENDERS. WHAT IS REVEALED ON THE FILM IS A KEY REBEL BATTLE TECHNIQUE. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO FIRST OVERTAKE A LIGHTLY DEFENDED TOWN, KNOWING NEXT GOVERNMENT REINFORCEMENTS WILL BE SENT INTO THE TERRAIN, WHICH IS

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WELL KNOWN TO THE GUERRILLAS, PERFECT FOR AMBUSHES. ON AUGUST 22ND, WE ARE TOLD, GOVERNMENT TROOPS FELL INTO THE REBEL TRAP. THE GOVERNMENT SUFFERED 563 CASUALTIES, ACCORDING TO THE GUERRILLAS. NEITHER SIDE IS WINNING THE WAR MILITARY, BUT IN THE WAR OF PROPAGANDA THE GUERRILLAS SEEM TO HAVE AN EDGE. WHILE THE GOVERNMENT IS ACCUSED INTERNATIONALLY OF KILLING AND TORTURING INNOCENT CIVILIANS, THE REBELS ARE TURNING OVER PRISONERS OF WAR TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, MAKING SURE PICTURES ARE TAKEN FOR THE WORLD TO SEE. THEY ARE NOT WITHOUT A SENSE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE MODERN NEEDS OF REBELLION.

3. PREPARED GUIDANCES FOR NOON BRIEFING FEBRUARY 25:

-- EL SALVADOR: US MILGROUP COMMANDER SAYS NO MILITARY VICTORY POSSIBLE IN EL SALVADOR? --

Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE WIRESERVICE REPORTS (REUTERS 2/24/83) ATTRIBUTED TO CONGRESSMAN EDWARD F. FEIGHAN (D-OHIO) THAT, DURING A BACKGROUND BRIEFING WITH THE US MILGROUP COMMANDER IN SAN SALVADOR LAST MONTH WAS INFORMED THAT "THERE CAN BE NO MILITARY VICTORY OVER THE REBELS?"

A: I AM IN NO POSIBITION TO COMMENT ON WHAT I SUPPOSE AS A BACKGROUND BRIEFING ON THE MILITARY SITUATION IN THAT COUNTRY. I WOULD LIKE, HOWEVER, TO ADDRESS THE POLICY CONSIDERATIONS IN THE QUESTION. AS HAS BEEN INDICATED BY A NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS IN TESTIMONY BEFORE CONGRESS, AS WELL AS FROM THIS PODIUM, WE ARE TRYING TO DO TWO THINGS IN EL SALVADOR: WE'RE TRYING TO GIVT IT ENOUGH MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO HOLD OFF THE INSURGENTS; ILITARILY, BUT TO PREVENT THEM FROM PREVAILING, WHILE REFORMS BRING ABOUT CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS, AND CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL HABITS OF THAT COUNTRY, SO THAT IN THE END THE INSURGENTS ARE IRRELEVANT AS FIGHTERS, AND THERE OCCURS THE KIND OF POLITICAL SOLUTION THAT HAS EMERGED IN A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTIRES THAT HAVE HAD THIS SORT OF INSURGENCY IN LATIN AMERICA. VENEZUELA IS A CASE IN POINT.

-- ANNOUNCEMENT: RADIO BROADCASTING TO CUBA INTRODUCED --

- I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SENATOR PAULA HAWKINS OF FLORIDA, INTRODUCED THE ADMINISTRATION'S BILL ON RAIDO BROADCASTING TO CUBA IN THE SENATE YESTERDAY. COPIES OF A LONGER STATEMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PRESS OFFICE THIS AFTERNOON. I WOULD NOTE HERE THAT, FOLLOWING THE BIPARTISAN SUPPORT GIVEN THE BILL'S INTRODUCTION LAST YEAR IN THE 97TH CONGRESS, THE REINTRODUCTION NOW HAS FOLLOWED A PERIOD OF CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH RADIO BROADCASTERS, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS AND KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. THE BILL INTRODUCED YESTERDAY MAKES SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS TO THE CONCERNS OF AMERICAN BROADCASTERS, THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH IS NOT TO USE ANY NON-GOVERNMENTAL FREQUENCY ON THE COMMERCIAL PORTION OF THE AM BAND.

- AS PRESIDENT REAGAN STRESSED ON FEBRUARY 22 IN A MEETING WITH A BI-PARTISAN GROUP OF LEGISLATORS, THE

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ADMINISTRATION BELIEVES STRONGLY THAT THE CUBAN PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN THEIR COUNTRY AND ABOUT THEIR GOVERNMENT'S ACTIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD. THE CURRENT BILL WILL ACHEIVE THIS OBJECTIVE WHILE ALSO RESPONDING TO THE CONCERNS VOICED BY THE BROADCASTING INDUSTRY.

-- REMAINS OF JOHN SULLIVAN IDENTIFIED --

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THE REMAINS BURIED IN NUEVO CUSCATLAN, AND EXHUMED THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18 ARE THOSE OF JOHN SULLIVAN?

A: THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE OFFICES OF CONGRESSWOMAN ROUKEMA AND CONGRESSMAN TORRICELLI THAT A COMPLETE EXAMINATION OF THE REMAINS WHICH TOOK PLACE THIS WEEK IN NEW YORK HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE REMAINS SHIPPED FROM EL SALVADOR FEBRUARY 19TH ARE THOSE OF JOHN SULLIVAN.

Q: WILL THE DEPARTMENT CONTACT THE SULLIVAN FAMILY?

A: I AM CERTAIN THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTACT THE SULLIVAN FAMILY TO OFFER OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES.

Q: HOW WERE THE REMAINS DISCOVERED?

A: ON JUNE 10 THE U.S. EMBASSY IN EL SALVADOR RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS LETTER WHICH SAID THAT THE BODY OF A MAN WHO APPEARED TO BE AN AMERICAN WAS BURIED IN A SMALL TOWN (PLAN DE LOPEZ, NUEVO CUSCATALAN) OUTSIDE THE CITY OF SAN SALVADOR. ON THE BASIS OF THIS INFORMATION, THE EMBASSY INVESTIGATED BURIAL RECORDS, INTERVIEWED LOCAL OFFICIALS, AND ULTIMOTELY REQUESTED THE EXHUMATION OF A BODY. THE EXHUMATION TOOK PLACE ON JULY 9, 1982. THE EMBASSY ARRANGED FOR A FORENSIC SPECIALIST TO EXAMINE THE REMAINS IN EL SALVADOR. HIS FINDINGS WERE FORWARDED TO THE U.S. AND REVIEWED BY A SPECIALIST WHO INDICATED THAT FURTHER REVIEW WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE SALVADORAN RESULTS WERE INCONCLUSIVE.

Q: WHY DID IT TAKE SO LONG TO GET THE REMAINS SHIPPED TO THE U.S.?

A: AFTER THE REMAINS WERE EXHUMED LAST JULY, THEY WERE REBURIED BECAUSE SALVADORAN MEDICAL OFFICIALS CONCLUDED ON THE BASIS OF THEIR EXAMINATION, THAT THESE WERE NOT THE REMAINS OF JOHN SULLIVAN. HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE FAMILY ARRANGED FOR SPECIALISTS IN HE UNITED STATES TO EXAMINE THE X-RAYS TO RULE OUT ANY POSSIBILITY THAT THESE WERE THE REMAINS OF JOHN SULLIVAN. X-RAYS OF THE REMAINS WERE FORWARDED TO THE SULLIVAN FAMILY IN THE SUMMER AND IT WAS NOT UNTIL DECEMBER 1982 THAT THE DEPARTMENT WAS ADVISED THAT THERE WAS A HIGH PROBABILITY THAT THE REMAINS WERE THOSE OF SULLIVAN.

Q: WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT DOING TO SOLVE THE CASE OF JOHN SULLIVAN'S DEATH?

A: THE EMBASSY HAS ACTIVELY PURSUED THIS CASE SINCE MR. SULLIVAN'S DISAPPEARANCE IN DECEMBER 1980. NOW THAT IT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT MR. SULLIVAN IS DEAD, WE WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR TO REDOUBLE ITS EFFORTS TO FULLY INVESTIGATE THE TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE AND DEATH.

IF ASKED ONLY

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON ALLEGATIONS BY THE

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SULLIVAN FAMILY THAT THE DEPARTMENT DID NOT DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO LOCATE THEIR SON?
A: WE HAVE THROUGHOUT THE MORE THAN TWO YEARS SINCE JOHN SULLIVAN DISAPPEARED, ATTEMPTED TO FOLLOW UP ON ALL LEADS TO RESOLVE THIS CASE. A DEPARTMENT OFFICER HAS BEEN IN CLOSE AND FREQUENT CONTACT WITH MEMBERS OF THE SULLIVAN FAMILY. WE HAVE KEPT THE FAMILY, AS WELL AS THEIR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES, FULLY INFORMED OF DETAILS OF THE EFFORTS TO LOCATE MR. SULLIVAN.
Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE ANONYMOUS LETTERS RELATED TO THE SULLIVAN CASE RECEIVED BY THE EMBASSY DURING THE COURSE OF THE PAST TWO YEARS?
A: THE U.S. EMBASSY IN SAN SALVADOR ATTEMPTED IN ALL INSTANCES TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE WRITERS OF THE ANONYMOUS LETTERS AND EFFORTS WERE MADE TO CROSS-CHECK THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THESE LETTERS. IN FACT, IT WAS AN ANONYMOUS LETTER WHICH DIRECTED THE ATTENTION OF THE EMBASSY TO THE SITE OF MR. SULLIVAN'S REMAINS.
4. SUMMARY OF NOON BRIEFING FEBRUARY 25 (ROMBERG): SPOKESMAN MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE RE-INTRODUCTION OF THE RADIO MARTI LEGISLATION, AND NOTED THAT A LONGER STATEMENT WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THE PRESS OFFICE LATER IN THE AFTERNOON. THERE WERE NO FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS.
CHARDY OF THE MIAMI HERALD NOTED THAT REP. SOLARZ HAD SAID DURING SECY. SHULTZ' TESTIMONY LAST WEEK THAT HE WAS AWARE OF A NEW PEACE PROPOSAL FROM NICARAGUA, INVOLVING JOINT BORDER PATROLS WITH HONDURAS, AND AN AGREEMENT TO STOP SUPPORTING GUERRILLAS IN EL SALVADOR IN RETURN FOR US AGREEMENT TO STOP SUPPORTING ANTI-SANDINISTA FORCES. SECY. SHULTZ HAD REPLIED AT THE TIME THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE WHOLE PROPOSAL. COMMENT? SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD NOTHING ON THAT SUBJECT.
GIANDONI OF COPLEY NEWSPAPERS ASKED IF THERE WERE ANYTHING NEW ON THE SITUATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA AND AMB. BRIGGS. SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD NOTHING NEW, AND SAID THE AMBASSADOR REMAINS IN PANAMA. DAM
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